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Parameterized Variables (Macros)

It is possible to pass parameters to TWiki variables. This is called a macro in a programming language.

To define a parameterized variable, set a variable that contains other variables, such as:

```
* Set EXAMPLE = Example variable using %DEFAULT%, %PARAM1% and %PARAM2%
* Set DEMO = Demo using %DEFAULT{ default="(undefined)" }%,
    %PARAM1{ default="(undefined)" }% and %PARAM2{ default="(undefined)" }%
```

A special `%DEFAULT%` variable denotes the default (nameless) parameter of the calling variable. Variables optionally may list a `default="..."` parameter that gets used in case the calling variable does not specify that parameter.

To use a parameterized variable (or call a macro), add parameters within the curly brackets, such as:

```
* %EXAMPLE{ "foo" PARAM1="bar" PARAM2="baz" }%
* %DEMO{ "demo" PARAM2="parameter 2" }% -- note that PARAM1 is missing
```

which resolves to:

- Example variable using foo, bar and baz
- Demo using demo, (undefined) and parameter 2 -- note that PARAM1 is missing


Parameters in the variable definition are expanded using the following sequence:

1. Parameter from variable call. In above example, `%PARAM1%` gets expanded to `bar`.
2. Session variable and preferences settings

Example

Define variables:

```
* Set DRINK = red wine
* Set FAVORITE = My %DEFAULT{default="favorite"}% dish is %DISH{default="steak"}%,
    my %DEFAULT{default="favorite"}% drink is %DRINK%.
```

 The default can be defined with a default parameter (`%DISH{default="steak"}%`), or as a preferences setting (`Set DRINK = ...`).

Use Variables:

```
%FAVORITE{ DISH="Sushi" DRINK="Sake" }%
```

Returns:

My favorite dish is Sushi, my favorite drink is Sake.

```
%FAVORITE{}%
```

Returns:

My favorite dish is steak, my favorite drink is red wine.

```
%FAVORITE{ "preferred" }%
```

Returns:

My preferred dish is steak, my preferred drink is red wine.

Related: TWikiVariables, IncludeTopicsAndWebPages

This topic: TWiki21Nov > ParameterizedVariables

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